

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 084537

45

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 /043 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OA/AVP:SCKEITER:JO

APPROVED BY EB/OA:MHSTYLES

EB/OA/AVP:AJWHITE

EB/AN:JCOOK

EUR/WE:EJBEIGEL

DOT/OST:DSCHROEDER

FAA/AIA:RTOENNIESSEN

CAB:FMURPHY

----- 106483

R 080307Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS STATE 084537

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, US, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - DISCRIMINATION IN GROUND HANDLING
AND OTHER USER CHARGES

REF : ROME A-63

1. UNLESS EMBASSY SEES OBJECTION, PLEASE SUBMIT FOLLOWING
NOTE TO MFA.

2.TO REFER TO THE ITALIAN-AMERICAN AVIATION
CONSULTATIONS HELD IN WASHINGTON, D.C., FEBRUARY 17-24,
1976.

AS THE U.S. DELEGATION MADE CLEAR, TWO ASPECTS OF THE
SITUATION IN ITALY WITH REGARD TO USER CHARGES APPEAR
TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST U.S. AIRLINES, CONTRARY TO
ARTICLE 15 OF THE CHICAGO CONVENTION AND ARTICLES 7
AND 9A OF THE BILATERAL AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT OF 1970.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 084537

ONE OF THESE IS THE REQUIREMENT THAT U.S. AIRLINES LANDING AT ROME UTILIZE THE GROUND HANDLING SERVICES OF THE SOCIETA AEROPORTI DI ROMA. WHATEVER THE THEORETICAL SITUATION, IN PRACTICE ALITALIA DOES NOT USE THESE SERVICES TO THE SAME DEGREE AS REQUIRED FOR U.S. AIRLINES

AND THUS RETAINS FOR ITSELF A FREEDOM OF CHOICE AND A COMMERCIAL IDENTITY DENIED U.S. AIRLINES. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT URGES THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY TO MOVE PROMPTLY TO GIVE EACH AIRLINE THE FREEDOM TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR ITSELF WHENEVER IT FEELS THAT THE AIRPORT COMPANY DOES NOT PROVIDE EFFICIENT SERVICES AT REASONABLE COST.

AS THE ITALIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE LONG BEEN AWARE, A SECOND DISCRIMINATORY ASPECT OF THE USER CHARGE SITUATION AT ROME IS THAT ALITALIA DOES NOT PAY LANDING FEES; NON-ITALIAN ONES DO. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WAS GRATIFIED TO LEARN THAT THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT IS CONSIDERING A BILL WHICH WOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT ITALIAN AIRLINES TOO MUST PAY LANDING CHARGES, BUT THAT GRATIFICATION WAS QUICKLY DISSIPATED BY THE BILL'S PROVISIONS THAT (A) THE DISCRIMINATION WOULD NOT BE ELIMINATED BEFORE 1982, AND (B) A VOLUME DISCOUNT UNJUSTIFIED BY COST DIFFERENCES, WOULD HAVE THE PRACTICAL EFFECT OF FAVORING ALITALIA EVEN AFTER THAT DATE. PERHAPS THOSE PROVISIONS WILL BE DROPPED BEFORE PASSAGE. IN THE MEANTIME, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT REQUESTS THAT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE U.S.-ITALY AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT REIMBURSE ALL SUCH CHARGES COLLECTED FROM U.S. CARRIERS SINCE ITS SIGNATURE ON JUNE 22, 1970.

WHILE NOT MENTIONED DURING THE FEBRUARY NEGOTIATIONS, U.S. AIRLINES ALSO SUFFER FROM A THIRD DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICE, THAT WHICH ALLOWS ITALIAN CARRIER CHARTER FLIGHTS LANDING AT ROME TO USE LEONARDO DA VINCI (FIUMICINO) AIRPORT, WHILE U.S. CARRIER CHARTER FLIGHTS MUST USE ONLY CIAMPINO AIRPORT. CIAMPINO IS CLEARLY INFERIOR TO FIUMICINO IN MANY ASPECTS, AND TOUR OPERATORS,

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 084537

GIVEN A CHOICE, WILL CHOOSE THE AIRLINE THAT HAS ACCESS TO THE MORE DESIRABLE AIRPORT. CIAMPINO'S SERVICES AND FACILITIES ARE MUCH MORE LIMITED; IT IS AT THE WRONG END OF THE CITY FOR EASY ACCESS; IT HAS WEIGHT LIMITATIONS FOR BOTH TAKE-OFF AND LANDING, AND CONSEQUENTLY CAPACITY CAN BE USED LESS EFFICIENTLY THAN AT FIUMICINO; AND AIRLINES OPERATING SCHEDULED SERVICES FROM FIUMICINO ARE FORCED TO MAINTAIN A DUPLICATE STAFF

AT CIAMPINO.

THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF
THE INTENTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY WITH RESPECT
TO THESE THREE SITUATIONS. KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, TEXT, AIRPORT FEES, AVIATION AGREEMENTS, DIPLOMATIC NOTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE084537
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SCKEITER:JO
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760133-0335
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760482/aaaacrzb.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ROME A-63
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: blochd0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2004 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <28 JAN 2005 by blochd0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR - DISCRIMINATION IN GROUND HANDLING AND OTHER USER CHARGES
TAGS: EAIR, US, IT
To: ROME
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006